

Message Text

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ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 NEA-14 ISO-00 DLOS-07 COA-02 EB-11 OIC-04

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 AEC-11

AGR-20 CG-00 COME-00 DOTE-00 FMC-04 INT-08 JUSE-00

NSF-04 OMB-01 IO-14 DRC-01 /195 W

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R 230822Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6567

USUN NEW YORK 667

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 4135

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, UN, SA, IR

SUBJECT: LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE

REF: A. TEHRAN 3396

B. STATE 100117

C. JIDDA 2765

1. DURING MAY 21 MEETING WITH EMBASSY LAW OF THE SEA (LOS) OFFICER, MFA LEGAL ADVISOR KAZEMI REEMPHASIZED THAT GOVERNMENT OF IRAN (GOI) PRIMARILY CONCERNED WITH ISSUE OF STRAITS DURING UPCOMING LOS CONFERENCE IN CARACAS. HE STATED GOI DOES NOT DEFINE ANY STRAIT AS QTE INTERNATIONAL STRAIT UNQTE, BUT RATHER AS QTE STRAIT USED FOR INTERNATIONAL NAVIGATION UNQTE. HE AGREED WITH USG POSITION THAT TERM INNOCENT PASSAGE TOO SUBJECTIVE AND THAT REGULATIONS FOR PASSAGE THROUGH STRAITS MUST BE MORE CLEARLY SPELLED OUT. GOI DOES NOT AGREE WITH USG POSITION ON FREE PASSAGE THROUGH STRAITS. STRESSING COASTAL STATE'S RIGHT TO CONTROL OWN TERRITORIAL SEAS FOR SECURITY AND
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POLLUTION/SAFETY PURPOSES, KAZEMI STATED GOI FAVORED WHAT HE

TERMED QTE REGULATED PASSAGE UNQTE THROUGH ALL STRAITS. UNDER THIS APPROACH A SEPARATE, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION WOULD BE FORMED TO DRAW UP AND SUPERVISE REGULATIONS COVERING PASSAGE THROUGH ALL STRAITS. ONE BROAD SET OF GENERAL REGULATIONS WOULD APPLY EQUALLY TO ALL STRAITS, AND A SECOND SET OF SPECIFIC REGULATIONS WOULD APPLY TO CERTAIN SENSITIVE STRAITS. COMPULSORY DISPUTE SETTLEMENT MECHANISM WOULD BE BUILT INTO THIS AGREEMENT. KAZEMI MADE IT CLEAR GOI'S POSITION WAS CAREFULLY WORKED OUT WITH STRAITS OF HORMUZ IN MIND.

2. TOPIC OF STRAITS AND DIFFERENCES BETWEEN US AND GOI POSITION THIS SUBJECT WILL OBVIOUSLY BE HIGH ON AGENDA OF DISCUSSIONS HELD BY LOS TEAM DURING MAY 28 VISIT TEHRN.

3. PER PARA 4, REFTTEL B, RETURN AIRLINE RESERVATIONS FOR MOORE ON MAY 29, TEHRAN-WASHINGTON, HAVE BEEN BOOKED.

4. FOR JIDDA: IN RESPONSE TO REQUEST PARA 3, REFTTEL C, TEHRAN FEELS SAUDIS SHOULD BE INFORMED ONLY THAT GOI IS PRIMARILY CONCERNED WITH ISSUE OF STRAITS, AND THAT THEY FEEL DOCTRINE OF INNOCENT PASSAGE NOT SUITABLE BASIS FOR INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT ON PASSAGE THROUGH STRAITS. DO NOT THINK IT ADVISABLE SPELL OUT GOI POSITION IN DETAIL AS OUTLIND PARA 1, ABOVE.

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